

#### **GOOD ACOUSTIC DESIGN - WHAT MIGHT IT ENTAIL**

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## THE CONTEXT OF GAD

#### Aims of the ProPG

 to assist the delivery of sustainable development by promoting good health and well-being through encouraging a good acoustic design process that is <u>multi-faceted</u> and seeks to deliver the <u>best</u> acoustic <u>outcome</u> for a particular site.

ProPG foreword/section 1 & SD2 section 1

## THE CONTEXT OF GAD

#### What it should be

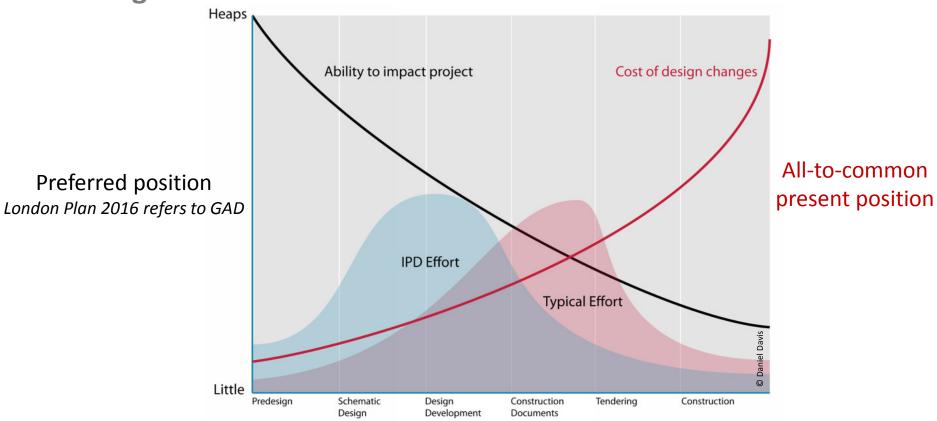
- essential and imperative consideration of acoustic design at an early stage – GAD covers both planning and design issues SD2 section 3.1
- a multi-faceted and integrated approach to achieve good acoustic conditions, both internally and externally ProPG para 2.19
- an integrated solution that achieves good (acoustic) outcomes for stakeholders without compromise with due consideration of other relevant issue ProPG foreword

#### What it shouldn't be

- simply compliance with recommended internal and external noise exposure standards
- a one-size-fits-all approach,
   "overdesign" and/or "gold plating"
- solely relying on the building envelope aka creating acoustic prisons

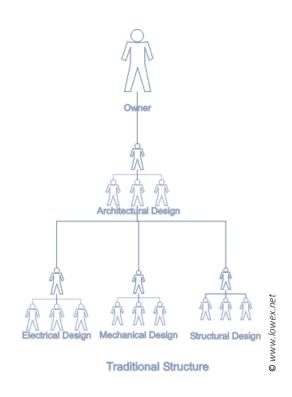
# **ABILITY TO INFLUENCE**

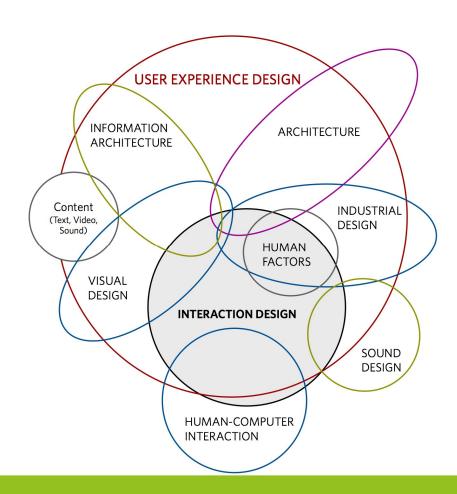
### Setting the scene



# **ABILITY TO INFLUENCE**

### Possible "new" approaches

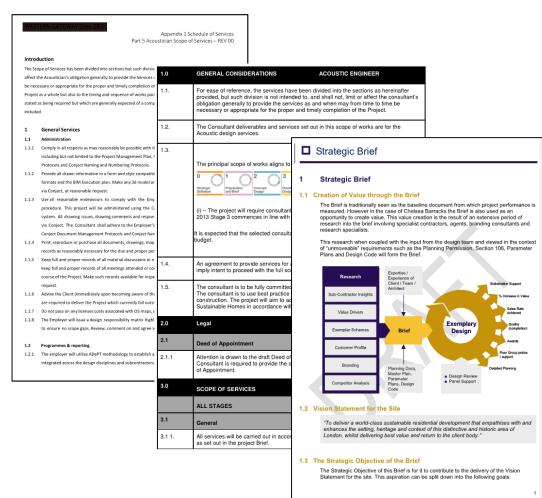




# **ABILITY TO INFLUENCE**

### Re-defining the goals

- GAD
- sustainability
- good health
- well-being/wellness
- positive/best outcomes
- occupants/end-users



# **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

### Metropolitan morphology

- Hardscapes radiate rather than absorb heat with –ve effects to water quality, heat-related illnesses (Urban Heat Island Effect)
- Soft Cityscapes with green infrastructure, such as moss walls/tree façades and planting improves aesthetics, well-being, and the cooling potential of buildings (SD2 sections 3.1 i-vi, 3.2, 3.5, 3.7, 3.10)





# **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**





#### **Primary effects**

- planting belts incorporating trees less than 3m in width can provide modest noise reduction
- augmented by
  - planting mix
  - soft, rough ground and understorey vegetation attenuate low frequency sound
  - bunds or fencing

#### Secondary effects

- soundscaping (birdsong)
- removing visual contact with the noise psychologically reduces the irritating effects



CIRIA C712 London, 2012
The benefits of large species trees in urban landscapes: a costing, design and management guide

# **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Green Building Envelope**

published evidence indicating green façades can act as effective sound absorbers (HOSANNA project et al)

greater levels of attenuation in "canyon" conditions and at greater distance from source and of emergent noise control

envelope

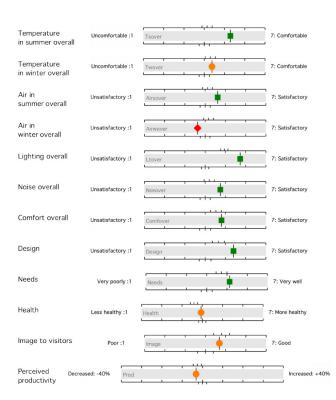
- Sensitive to street width, building dims, overhangs, façade coverage area
- psychological perception of quiet complementing physical reductions



# **QUALITY OF LIFE EVALUATION**

### **Current 'best' practice**

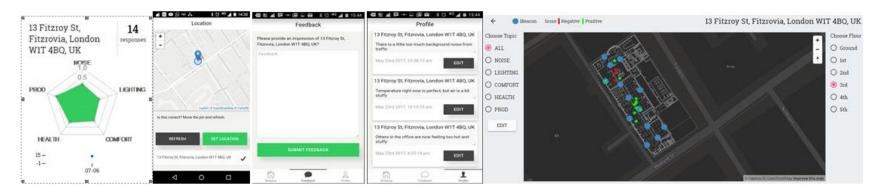
- few POE platforms (BUS methodology) geared-up to domestic buildings
- limited take-up currently (ca. 10% of all buildings in dataset)
- best response rates from paper surveys barrier to large scale deployments
- lends itself more to PRS and HA



# **QUALITY OF LIFE EVALUATION**

### **Future shape**

- virtuous feedback cycle influencing business models/briefs, policy ProPG paras 3.14-3.15
- more attention given to quality of service as a differentiator
- smart digital solution/Internet of Things (environmental sensors with real-time feedback collected (wearables/GoogleHome/mobilePhone)
- potential advantage of big-data ProPG paras 3.14-3.15



## **MONETISATION**

#### Research and the "business" case

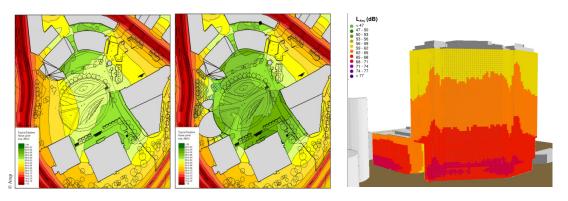
#### **Key findings**

- disproportionately low amount of research
- evidence that 'peace and quiet' is a KPI
- evidence of 'Place-making' ProPG Stage 2 element 3
- evidence that property differentiation could enjoy lower void rates, increased rental, capital value
- evidence not yet translating into widespread action in the market



# **GREATER INFLUENCE**

## **Enriched discussions/Deeper understanding**

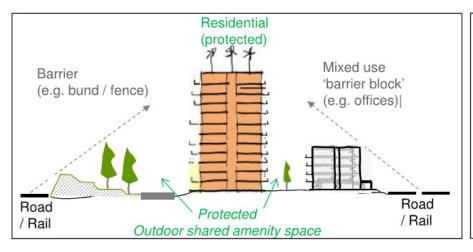


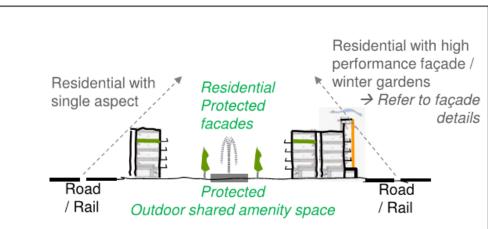




# WHEN GAD COMES TOGETHER

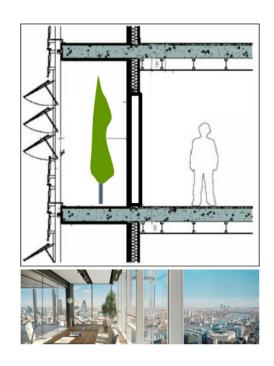
### Good Use of Space & Mass SD2 sections 3.1-3.7,3.10

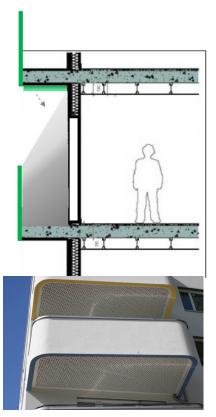




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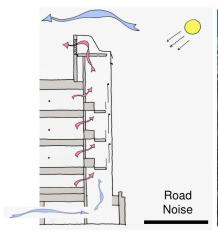
Good Envelope Design #1 SD2 sections 3.8-3.9





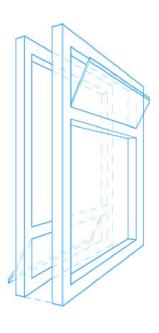
# WHEN GAD COMES TOGETHER

## Good Envelope Design #2 SD2 sections 3.8-3.9









# WHAT GAD MIGHT (SHOULD) ENTAIL

### Recap

- Industry recognition and acceptance
  - future GAD Award Scheme SD2 section 4 & ProPG section 2.24
- Redefining the "commodity"
- Greater/earlier influence SD2 section 3.1
- Re-positioning of the building occupants and acoustic practitioner ProPG para 3.14-3.15